

NEWS DIGEST.

1. Arab League has formed a Higher Council for the Refugees to cooperate with the UN-Expert on Refugees.

A military and political important subject has been discussed. Arab League's Pol. comm. may end its meetings to-morrow.

2. On being asked about the mediator's success in his recent visit to the Near East, Dr. Punch said that the Count was successful in one and had no luck in the other. The question of refugees was success, while that of an amicable solution still remains unclear.

3. Abdullah el Tel did not agree to the demilitarisation of Zion and Turi areas but suggested that the said areas be considered as No Man's Land. The mediator who had met Col. Tel yesterday, agreed to this suggestion and promised to bring it up with Mr. Shertok.

4. The Trans-Jordanian minister of finance has declared that the Govt of Trans-Jordan has issued a new currency backed by the English pound and independent of the Palestinian pound.

5. The Muslem Brotherhood Association in Egypt has presented a memorandum to Arab Heads of states and Govts asking for the cancellation of the truce and the holding of a Muslem Conference to deal with the problem and put a solution to it.

Thursday-afternoon, Sept. 9, 1948.

1. A battle took place in the north when the Jews tried to attack the Arab strong hold of Alma el Sha'b . UN-observers witnessed this Jewish violation and aggression. The Arab Liberation army who occupies that front and the people of Alma el Sha'b village repulsed the big Jewish attack inflicting 63 dead casualties on the Jews while two Arabs were killed and 9 were wounded.

2. In reply to a question put ^{by} the Arab News Agency regarding the statement of Syrian P.M. Jamil Mardam who said that the Arabs were defeated in the battle of Palestine, Abdullah el Tel said: "....In fact the Arab armies did not lose any important battle in Palestine; the Arab Legion alone killed over 10,000 Jewish soldiers and a big number of the Jews were wounded. The other Arab armies inflicted almost the same number of casualties. " "....If the Arab armies were under the command of one leader the battle of Palestine will not take more than 14 days and the Jews will be badly and completely defeated," he added.

The other statement of the Syrian P.M. that war may last 10 yrs. in Palestine , was not received with enthusiasm in Jerusalem, according to the Arab N. Agency.

3. Head of the Arab Prisoners Of War Office Dr. Mussa Huseini said in a press conf. yesterday that there ^{are} about 5,800 Arab prisoners in Jewish hands. Some other Arab prisoners are said to be in Jewish hands although the Jews have not said anything in this connection. The food situation among Arab prisoners is very bad at the evidence of the Red Cross Chief Delegate who asked the Jews to increase the unsufficient amounts and to improve the quality. The living conditions are also very bad, Dr. Huseini added. Every 35 Arab prisoners sleep in one tent, every five in one bed, and they have no covers. Some Arab women prisoners are known to be in Jewish custody although this is contrary to international traditions.

Wed.-afternoon, Sept. 8, 1948.

REGISTER COPY

1. Fire and shelling were exchanged in Jerusalem yesterday. At about 1 a.m. the Jews fired 20 mortars on Arab Legion lines in Turi. Later they tried to enter No Man's Land and were badly repulsed. One Arab was slightly wounded while Jewish casualties are said to be quite considerable.

Thirty mines previously planted by the Jews in the neutral Red Cross area were removed under the supervision of UN-observers yesterday.

2. A message from Cairo says that the mediator has told the Sec. Council in a recent report that Arab refugees must return to their homes and places. Many Jewish violations of truce have also been reported to the Council.

"If the Palestine refugees return to their homes," declared the UN-expert on refugee problems, "we must keep supplying them with food and necessities for at least a year as they have lost almost everything."

The mediator will arrive in Amman to-day where he will spend four hrs. and then will leave for Haifa.

3. An Arab leader told the mediator that the Arabs refuse to consider anything that leads to a Jewish state in Palestine, and that any solution suggested by the mediator should be based on the returning back of the refugees to their homes and places.

Wed.-morning, Sept. 8, 1948.


1. At 3:45 the Jews tried to carry out a big attack on Arab lines in vain. Sheikh Jarrah and Mea-Sherim Qrts. were exposed to heavy fire and shelling. Tanks and armoured cars were used by the Jews who withdrew after 45 minutes before the victorious Arab Legion. The Arabs lost two soldiers only. The number of Jewish casualties is not known yet. "...It was another hard lesson....etc."

2. The B.B.C. corres. in Cairo described the present session of the Pol.comm. of the Arab League as "...The most imp. pol. event since the League was established in 1944." The same corres. said also: "....The decisions which will be taken will be connected with the lives and vital interests of millions in the Near East...."

Bernadotte is said to have met Nokrashi and Azzam for two hrs. yesterday. The mediator will attend the afternoon meeting of the pol. comm. to-day. It is said that the mediator is keen on knowing what solutions Arabs would accept before he presents his new suggestions to UNO.

3. Mr. Eban, who ~~starkly~~ urged direct negotiations with the Arabs and who expressed his sorrow and wonder that the mediator and Sec.Council have not done anything about this suggestion, Eban is also said to have declared that ".....The Jews in Palestine are at the door of very dangerous economic crisis which must be dealt with immediately..."

4. A message from Iraq says that about 10,000 well trained Assyrian soldiers have been recruited and will be in Palestine shortly.

In his "Today's talk" Asmi tried to explain that a ten years  is an easy thing for the Arabs to do, that it will end in complete victory for the Arabs and will relieve the whole East for ever .

Tuesday-afternoon, Sept.7,1948.

STAT 1. Mr. Eban the American Zionist now in Tel-Aviv declared yesterday that it is the earnest desire of the Jews to enter into peaceful negotiations with the Arabs immediately. "...I am surprised how the mediator and the Sec.Council have not helped to bring about this useful idea" said Eban.

2. The Front Party Union of Iraq has dedicated 50,000 dinars (pounds) for the Palestine refugees. "...This is only a first instalment" of the said party according to a spokesman.

3. The Egyptian foreign minister Khashabah Pasha and other members of the Egyptian delegation to UN will leave for Paris on Friday next.

The Syrian delegation will be headed by Faris Bay el Khuri.

4. New oil springs have been discovered in Turkey.

Tuesday-morning, Sept.7,1948.

1. The press Attache of Count Bernadotte held a press conf. in Jerusalem to-day in which he declared that 3 days ago an illegal ship had arrived, 400 illegal immigrants 200 of which were of military age entered Palestine. On being asked why were they allowed the Press Att. said: ".....There are no restrictions against immigration in the truce conditions, but the question of immigrants of military age was left for the mediator....etc." The same source also declared that in a report to the Sec.Council the mediator stated that the dispute on the Govt.House area was caused by Jewish violation of the truce. On the 27 of Aug. last the Jews violated the truce in Haifa openly, the mediator's report said.

2. Congressmen Harper and Summers of the American Union For the Liberation of Israel were on a visit to Jewish fronts yesterday. Mr. Harper of Yale University- declared that the so called Jewish state will collapse economically within three to four weeks unless the a help of over three million dollars is offered. "...Jewish economics are in a very bad condition" said Mr. Harper who also attacked the State Department for preventing the immigration of military aged Jews from Germany to Palestine. (The above was reported by the United Press corr. in Tel-Aviv, according to the a/m broadcast,wt.)

The B.B.C. corres. in Tel-Aviv said in a message to London that the reason behind Jewish economic crisis is that the alleged Jewish state had drawn up a budget of 12 million pounds for the war. To meet this budget the Jews are trying to levy heavy taxes. A person of 5000 pounds income will have to pay 3/4 of his total income.

To-day's talk by Azmi Nashashibi-Subject: "Jerusalem".

".....No wonder if our subject is Jm. for it has been a very important part of the present pol. game recently. The Count first said the Arabs should have Jerusalem for many reasons.....Then the Jews objected and the American Jewish Sec.Council suggested that it should be international. This suggestion that comes from the American-Jewish Sec.Council, aims at making another Balkan area of this capital so that the whole Arab countries will be a place of troubles and intrigues planted by the U.S. the enemy of the Arabs and by Zionism. The hostile American attitude towards the Arabs is known and the support of America to her Jewish children is also known....." ".....If this hostile west gives us Jerusalem as a gift we should not accept it, because capitulations and other made up rights will follow. We should take Jerusalem by the sword just as Omar(the Muslem caliph) took it the first time. We will solve a great part of the Arab Refugee problem as Jerusalem will easily take in 200,000 refugees. Also we will creat a big Refugee problem for the Jews who will be crowded in Tel-Aviv and who will stop immigration so as to feed the refugees first. ".....".....The picture is clear and does not need explanation....." Azmi concluded.

Monday-afternoon, Sept. 6, 1948.

I. After the evacuation of the Arab College and the Agricultural College, the situation in Jerusalem has improved considerably. Due to this evacuation of the neutral Red Cross area, the situation in Jerusalem may take a turning point according to certain observers.

(This was the most interesting item in the above broadcast.wt.)

"DAMASCUS"-20 mts. short wave.

The Syrian P.M. Jamil Mardam Bey said yesterday : ".....I am sure that the present situation in Palestine and the crisis suffered so far by the Arabs will, the back ground of their coming glory and victory." ".....The present Arab unity is due to the great and sincere endeavours of Egypt to whom all Arab states look with hope and admiration." Speaking about the coming Arab League meeting, the Syrian P.M. said: ".....This meeting will be the turning point in the history of the Palestine case and the Arab countries too. In this month the mediator will present new suggestions which the Sec. Council may consider in whole or in part. Our position will remain unchanged."

(Note: The "Jerusalem" Arab Broadcasting station did not work this morning. It was operating yesterday noon and the last part of its program of yesterday was a speech by Azmi Nashashibi, the Director.)

Monday, morning, Sept. 6, 1948.

"JERUSALEM" 443 mts.

2 : or 3 p.m.

I. Lebanese defence minister Prince Majeed Arslan and Fawzi Qawukji leader of the Liberation army, visited the Lebanese front yesterday.

The Lebanese Govt. has decided to spend three million Syrian pounds more on the army.

As a result of the general mobilization call of the Syrian Govt. the 1929 born have been registered at their own request. Thousands of craftsmen and Govt. officials have presented their services to the Syrian army too.

The Muslim Brothers Union celebrated its 20th ann. yesterday. The head of the association Sheikh Hasan el Banna explained to the foreign correspondent the principles of the said Union.

Today's Talk- by Azmi Nashashibi:-

".....The tune of peaceful negotiations with the Arabs has been played again by the Jews. They have realized that the occupation of few towns or villages does not mean much; it is the army condition that counts. The Jews have lost over 15000 soldiers and the same number of wounded persons, according to foreign sources. Arabs on the other hand have lost a very small number and they (Arabs) grow stronger every day" he said. ".....The Jews are suspecting Count Bernadotte; still, if they refuse a solution by him, they refuse the Sec. Council's solution or in other word America's solution. If they go on fighting the result is their destruction. Hitler occupied several states and a big territory in Europe, but the occupied nations fought him for six years and defeated him. So, no wonder if the Jews are keen on discussing things peacefully with the Arabs. Also, they are divided among themselves. The I.Z.L. and the like would like have all Palestine and Trans-Jordan according to their dreams, while those in power do not venture to say so. The result might be also a civil war among the Jews.etc."

".....The Arabs are kind and hospitable, but they cannot forget the Jewish aggression on Arab Honour, Lives and Property. If however, the Arabs would think of talking things with the Jews it would be on the following basis: 1) that the Jews go back behind their lines of Nov. 1947 2) That all Arab refugees return back to their homes, places and works, 3) that the Jews should pay for everything they took or damaged, 4) That the Jews be satisfied with what the Arabs give them and not dictate things on the Arabs.....etc."

Sunday-afternoon, Sept. 5, 1948.

1. The U.S. Govt. has authorized Count Bernadotte to decide on Jewish immigrants of military age in the American Zone of Germany. It is expected that the mediator will prevent the immigration of those between 12 and 45.

The mediator is working on a report regarding the death of the two French officers to be submitted to the Sec. Council.

2. The Jews evacuated the Arab and the Agricultural Colleges yesterday. Red Cross and white flags are flying over these buildings now.

Last night was a quiet one but for few Jewish bombs over Damascus Gate, Turi and Sa'd-S'eed areas.

3. Indonesia has responded to the mediator's appeal for helping the Palestine refugees. The Govt. of Indonesia also ~~withdrew~~ drew the attention of the mediator to the blockade of Holland around Indonesian territory which would hinder any Indonesian help.

4. Habib Bu Reqibah the secretary of the Tunisian party, has arrived in Alexandria to discuss the case of Tunis with Azzam before raising it to the UNO.

Sunday-morning, Sept. 5, 1948.

1. The a/m Arab station is working again after 9 days of silence that was due to technical reasons they said.

2. Last night was considered as one of the most quiet ones Jerusalem has had for a long time, although the Jews fired one mortar on Turi area at 10:30. Also mortars were fired at the Arab garrison near Govt. House.

In a press conf. by the Consular Truce Commission the U.S. Consul said that the Arabs had agreed to the demilitarization of Jerusalem but the Jews did not. " The Jews want Jerusalem to be connected with the whole Palestine problem " he said.

The Belgium Consul denied his alleged kidnapping and said he "was visiting a none-Palestinian friend in Tel-Aviv."

This afternoon Col. Abdullah el Tel, General Riley and a Jewish military representative will meet to discuss the neutral area around the Govt. House.

3. Arab League's political committee will meet on Monday to discuss important things relating to the unification of Arab commands in Palestine.

4. The U.S. Govt. has protested to the Govt. of Prague with regard to the fact that the Jewish officers now in Prague are buying planes and arms which are being sent to Palestine.

5. A foreign correspondent was quoted to have said that the economic conditions among the Jews are very bad. Soldiers have not been paid for the last three months, merchants are not accepting the new currency in many cases and the authorities are finding difficulties in supplying factories with workers.

Friday-afternoon, Sept. 5, 1948.

1. A message from Washington says that the U.S. Govt. has come to know that Jewish military officers now in Europe are smuggling arms to Palestine. Planes and arms were discovered in Prague on their way to Palestine, according to an information received by the State Dep. from Am. Embassy-Prague. The mediator has been informed.

2. The U.S. Govt. is taking strict measures against persons and organizations suspected of communistic activities.

" RADIO DAMASCUS " -20 mts. short wave.

8:30 or 9:30 a.m.

1. Arabs and Jews have agreed to complete cease fire in Jerusalem, according to a UN-message.

To-day a meeting will take place in Jerusalem for enlarging the neutral area of the Red Cross Security Zone.

About thirty UN-observers left Haifa yesterday to investigate in a Jewish violation of truce in the north of Palestine.

It was reported from Jerusalem that the Jews attacked the villages of Silwan and Deir Abaan and bombed the Arab Turi area.

A Jewish spokesman said in Jerusalem yesterday that the Jews are thinking of taking over the Old city. There were rumours also that the Jews are trying to make passages through the city walls.

2. The Rep. of the Pope declared in Amman yesterday that his church in Jerusalem was badly damaged by Jewish bombs day before yesterday.

3. Egypt has not agreed to allow food conveyes pass to Jewish settlements in the Negeb.

Friday-morning, Sept. 3, 1948.

"JERUSALEM" 443 mts.

2 or 3 p.m.

1. In its coming meeting the pol. comm. of the Arab League will take a decision to the effect that the Arabs will not agree to any suggestion that relates to an alleged ^{UN/PA} sovereignty over any section of Palestine.

The Arab League is preparing documents, evidence and other data relating to ~~their~~ Jewish barbarism in Palestine.

2. General Lundstroem has arrived in Rhodes. The mediator and his Chief of Staff will start a journey to Arab capitals shortly.

3. Egyptian delegate to UN Mahmud Fawzi Bey arrived in Cairo yesterday. He is supposed to meet the P.M. and other responsible personalities today. (It may be interesting to remember that few days ago Mahmud Fawzi met George Marshall and the meeting was described as important although nothing was said about the subject of discussion. wt.)

4. The Union Of Iraqi Parties has decided to send a mission to visit Palestine refugees and present to them food, clothes and money.

"To-day's talk"- under this subject the director of the a/m Arab radio Azmi Bey Nashashibi said that the Arab public opinion still considers the Palestine case as the first important issue while the Refugee Problem is a secondary one. "...In my recent visit to Arab capitals I talked to many Palestinian Arabs who seem to think of nothing but the Palestine case which should be won by peace or force." "Why is it that the Jews have brought about the suggestion of direct negotiations with the Arabs at this moment while Bernadotte is on his way back from Europe? Why do the Jews speak of negotiations and claim to be in possession of one of the strongest armies? This will be the subject of next time's talk" said Azmi.

Saturday-afternoon, Sept. 4, 1948.

1. The meeting of Jewish and Arab mil.reps. with UN-observers which was supposed to take place to-day has been postponed until General Riley and the Chief of Staff will arrive in Jerusalem according to a Jewish spokesman.

Count Bernadotte who is now on his way to Rhodes has declared that the hope for a peaceful solution of the Palestine case increases every day. The mediator is working on a report that deals with his activities since the 28th of May.

On being asked about the Gaza incident the Count said it was very serious and very bad, and that investigations are still going on.

2. A Reuter's message from Amman says that the Jews have violated the truce in Deir Abasan near Hebron. Arabs replied the fire losing one of them and six Jews.

3. The U.S. gift to the Palestine refugees composed of 7 tons of clothes has reached. ~~2~~ 2 1/2 have already been distributed in the south and the rest will be distributed in the north by the Red Cross authorities.

Thursday-afternoon, Sept. 2, 1948.

1. Count Bernadotte arrived in Paris yesterday and met Mr. Trygvie Lie. On being asked about Palestine the mediator said that reports from his staff there are very good and that he is still optimistic as to the whole Palestine problem. The mediator is expected to leave for Rhodes to-day.
2. Arab and Jewish military representatives are supposed to meet with UN-observers to-day to discuss the neutral areas
3. The UN-observation planes are looking for a Jewish ship loaded with arms on its way to Palestine.
4. The Pakistan minister of legation in Cairo said yesterday that his Govt.'s policy towards Palestine is part of the Indian policy towards all the Arab countries. On being asked about the so called "Israel" he said: ".....This alleged state has no quality of statehood..."

Thursday-morning, Sept. 2, 1949.